

THE CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD

Official Organ of The Library Section,
National Catholic Educational Association.

Editor, Francis E. Fitzgerald
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CATHOLIC PERIODICAL INDEX

ANNUAL TO GO TO PRESS

New York, N.Y. February 20, 1931. Work on revision and compiling of the first cumulated volume of The Catholic Periodical Index is going forward and the editors will have material ready for the printers by the end of the month. The volume will be in cloth binding and contain nearly two hundred and fifty pages of indexing. Subscribers are informed that the 1930 Annual can not be supplied with the expedition of commercial publications due to the very great limitations the editors work under. Delivery will be made from the plant of The H. W. Wilson Company in New York City.

Special letters were sent out from the Chairman of the Library Section's office asking the special assistance of our friends in disposing of an edition of one thousand copies of the 1930 ANNUAL. Several responses already at hand indicate a great deal of cooperation can be expected. Under date of February 18th, a letter has been mailed to the public libraries in the United States soliciting their orders for the 1930 ANNUAL. "America" expects to assist the Library Section with the advertisement which was run announcing the 1930 ANNUAL to their subscribers. Another letter is in preparation for mailing to the Catholic high school libraries for the purpose of securing their orders for one copy of the 1930 ANNUAL.

The Editor in Chief, Francis E. Fitzgerald, hopes by this means to dispose of the larger edition as the only means of clearing the deficit after the first year's operations. Unless the edition is disposed of wholly, a deficit will have to be carried on the new volume for which material is already on hand ready for printing. Subscribers are urged to lend their valuable assistance in this publishing effort of the N.C.E.A. Library Section in which so many have already contributed so generously. One thousand copies ought to be eagerly bought up by the thousands of Catholic colleges, universities, and high schools and in fact an even larger edition would be needed if a fair percentage responded. There are over four thousand Catholic high schools in the country alone besides over several hundred colleges and universities. In our lack of finances to wage a strenuous and thorough advertising campaign, we look to our friends for the final support so necessary to see this undertaking succeed. We hope to report in the next issue of the C.L.W. that the edition has been sold out.

THE SECOND CHICAGO MID-WINTER CONFERENCE AT LOYOLA UNIVERSITY

The Impressions Gained by a New Librarian at the Regional Meeting

TO BE ONE of the large group which made up the Library Section of the National Catholic Educational Association meeting at Loyola University on Sunday afternoon, December 28, 1930, gave me a feeling of exhilaration which I shall long remember. My first impression of the group as a whole was one of complete unity of purpose. Each member was so intensely interested in what every one else had to say that, immediately, I had the thought that our legislative bodies might well learn from them what it is to think outside oneself and do for others. The only lobbyist among them was Dr. F.E. Fitzgerald and his was the form of lobbying which we all value highly when we realize how much his work on The Catholic Periodical Index is doing for the overworked reference librarian who simply can not find the time to search through current and recent periodicals say for a book review of Maritain's "Art and Scholasticism",

Our own Miss Ryan presided with her ever present charm and it was she who stimulated the discussion period to the point where everyone was on his toes and ready with his findings in the field under particular consideration. As in all active bodies, there was no lack of healthy, thoughtful individuality. As each speaker put forth his ideas, one could feel little sparks going off around him, sparks of difference of opinion or sparks of appreciation of some particularly good idea.

Dr. Fitzgerald struck the key note of the meeting in his very rational treatment of his subject, "Librarianship of the Future". He stressed the great need of trained assistants and the duty of every librarian to work with the faculties to the point where they become 'library-minded' and realized the need of trained service for complete utilization of the library's possibilities. The outworn teacher can not then become a substitute for trained, eager, and able librarians was his contention.

Sister Marie Cecilia then proceeded to outline her work in directing the Library School of the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul. She pointed out the difficulties which one always encounters when one is trying to work out an ideal. All through her remarks we were aware of a force of personality which seemed almost incompatible with her frailness and delicacy.

Altogether, this meeting boded well for the successful outcome of the Conference and to a newcomer in the field opened up vistas and brought broadening ideas of the immensity of the work to be done. And yet, in spite of the practicality in evidence in each new treatment of very mundane things, there was the same urge which prompted the poet to say, "Who shall bear the weight of the world while I go in search of the golden apples of the Hesperides."

Miss Ann Dalglish, Loyola University Library, Chicago.

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THE CATHOLIC INDEX OF FORBIDDEN BOOKS



S SUCH A BOOK ON THE INDEX? If so, why? What books are placed on the Index? Any librarian knows by experience that these questions are asked quite frequently. Answers to these questions are found in the little book of Reverend Francis S. Betten, S.J., "The Roman Index and Forbidden Books." This article is contributed to enable the reference librarians to answer the above questions readily.

The Holy See has organized at various times departments to assist it in the transaction of those affairs which canonical discipline and the individual interests of the Faithful bring to Rome. The most important of these are, without doubt, the Roman Congregations (Sacrae Cardinalium Congregationes) which are twelve in number, one of which being the Congregation of the Index. Especially since the invention of printing, there has always been felt in the Church the necessity of preventing the faithful from reading books that might ruin either faith or morals. A constitution of Alexander VI in the year 1501, which was confirmed in 1515 by Leo X in the Fifth Council of the Lateran, contains very wise prescriptions concerning prohibited books. To give wider circulation to these laws, catalogues of prohibited books were published by private enterprise, and sometimes with ecclesiastical authority, not however, with the supreme authority of the Church. Three such catalogues were published by the University of Louvain in 1546 (approved by the emperor) and in 1550, and 1558. One was published by the Sorbonne in 1542. Between 1549 and 1554 several lists of prohibited books were also published in Italy and Germany. A general Index under the supreme authority of the Church soon became a necessity and Paul IV commissioned the Holy Office to prepare one. The first edition appeared in 1557 and a revised edition in 1559. The Tridentine Index, ordered by the Council of Trent, was approved and published by Paul IV in 1564. This Index was often reprinted with new additions. It has been modified and corrected by Leo XIII who published it in 1900 with his Constitution "Officiorum ac numerum" in which he abolished the old laws and established new ones for the condemnation and for the preliminary censure of all books. A new revised and enlarged edition was ordered to be published by Pius XI in 1930 including all books prohibited since 1922. To the present day the Congregation of the Index retains its primitive organization dating back to Pius V. 1571.

Like all the other Congregations it consists of a number of Cardinals, one of whom is prefect; the master of the Sacred Palace (a Dominican) is ex officio its assistant. Another Dominican is the Secretary of the Congregation of the Index which has a college of consultors whose office it is to deliver written opinions on the books submitted to their judgment by the Congregation. The jurisdiction of the Congregation of the Index is universal, extending to all Catholics. It can therefore grant permission for the reading of a book that has been condemned or for the publication of corrected editions of books that have been proscribed. Pius X made a change in the functions of this Congregation which widens the scope of its activities. The traditional rule was that the Index did not condemn

any book which had not been denounced to it; now, on the contrary, the Congregation is charged with the work of seeking out pernicious publications, and, after mature examination, condemning and proscribing them.

The procedure of the Congregation was accurately determined by an instruction of Clement VIII and by a Constitution (July 9, 1753) of Benedict XIV. The consultor or consultors selected for the examination of a book to be judged, having made their written report, if it appears that a book should be condemned, a preparatory Congregation is held which consists of the Master of the Sacred Palace, the Secretary of the Index, and six consultors, versed in the matter of which the books treated and selected by the cardinal prefect. At this meeting the passages of the book of which complaint is made are diligently examined, and the question whether or not they contain errors is discussed. The secretary prepares an accurate report of the views of the preparatory congregation of the cardinals, at which the cause is carefully examined and final judgment is rendered.

Canonical legislation concerning prohibited books is composed of two parts: (1) Books noted in the Index, (2) Books prohibited by general decrees which are enumerated in the Code of Canon Law. This Code prohibits:

1. All books of the Holy Scriptures or commentaries and annotations published without the 'Imprimatur'. Editions of the original text of the Bible and of old Catholic versions published by non-Catholics; translations of such texts into whatever language, made or simply published by non-Catholics. All translations of the Holy Scriptures, even if made by Catholics, are also prohibited if they are neither approved by the Holy See nor edited under the supervision of the Bishops.

2. (a) Books by any writers spreading and defending heresy or schism; (b) Books attacking or ridiculing Catholic dogma; (c) Books that purposely attack religion and good morals; (d) Books teaching modern theosophy, materialism, skepticism, and denying the existence of God, the immortality of the human soul, revelation, prophecies, miracles, etc.

3. Books of all non-Catholics treating ex professo of religion.

4. Books upholding errors condemned by the Holy See.

5. Books that teach or recommend superstitions such as divination, magic, spiritism, etc.

6. Books maintaining that suicide, divorce, birth control, etc., are allowed.

7. Books that treat ex professo of lewd subjects.

8. Books and pamphlets telling of new apparitions, revelations, visions, miracles, etc. if they are edited without Imprimatur. Whether a book is prohibited by these general rules, or by special decree, no one may, without special permission from competent authority, edit, sell, read, translate, or pass it to other persons.

The Catholic University of America
Washington, D.C.

H Joseph Schneider
Librarian

FINANCING THE CATHOLIC PERIODICAL INDEX

THE CATHOLIC PERIODICAL INDEX holds more significance to our educational program than most of us seem to realize. Coming forth with very little pomp and ceremony, continuing only by the sheer will power of its organizers and backers, it forms the nucleus of what may easily become the chief agency for spreading Catholic truth in one form or another. Periodical literature is holding a paramount position in influencing and guiding opinion and intellectual attitudes. Scholars and enlightened persons are willing and anxious to secure the Catholic viewpoint on many important subjects of dispute as well as purely research information produced in Catholic centers.

Some small realization is slowly forcing its way here and there that in The Catholic Periodical Index lies great hopes for Catholic advance. In this connection the Editor received a very gracious message from the learned Secretary of the Catholic University of America. Doctor Purcell writes that he is "finding the Catholic Periodical Index of real service. It is a work much needed and extremely well done. If we only had an index of Catholic periodicals from Cary's old museum to the present". (It will interest Dr. Purcell that such a project is under consideration). From the friends of the 'C.P.I.' in England, Ireland, Austria, and even far off Australia, come words of praise and recognition for this new service to Catholic education.

All these things and many more hearten the Editor in his work, sandwiched in as it is with pressing daily tasks on which his livelihood depends. But the real problem is one of more immediate support. Universities and colleges which ought to be the first to put forth their supporting aid are yet to be heard from. Subscriptions needed are secured only after the most strenuous campaigning involving the loss of precious energy and still more precious funds. Let us not forget that the present small accomplishments are not the work of a few hands for a few hours - by no means. Months of anxiety and work have already been expended with but small return after all. In lack of material resources we have seen sincere and loyal librarians give generously of their time, energy, and ability to see the first few numbers through. These efforts have kept the publication alive not the few dollars so far received grateful as we are for them. But this situation can not long continue. Willing hands grow weary and flagging energies lessen one's enthusiasm. WE NEED THE NEW BLOOD OF SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS TO CONTINUE THE PUBLICATION.

To the serious Catholic educators, to all who are interested in the meaning of our scholarship and teachings to all mankind, we appeal in the hope that from all sides that necessary support will be forthcoming. We need generous friends to open their purses in our aid. There might even exist a few who would not be undismayed by the idea of giving us several thousand dollars as a foundation fund. One hundred thousand dollars would support the publication without difficulty together with the returns from subscriptions. Do you want to help us? If you do, then subscribe first. Then if you can help out these beginning years by a donation.

Francis E. Fitzgerald, Editor.

EDITORIAL PAGE

THE LIBRARY SECTION

SINCE the early days of its organization by Father Foik, the Library Section has shown new strength with each succeeding year. Membership in it as with the National Association has taken on a small growth annually. The national membership of the N.C.E.A. is now over three thousand. It is indeed a small percentage of the large Catholic body - over twenty millions - in the United States, but when it is considered that over fifty per cent of the Catholic teaching body is composed of lay persons who have little authority and still smaller compensations to warrant much enthusiasm for an extended trip to a convention each year, there is reason to be very hopeful. Then, too, on the other hand communities are loath to make an individual member of each teacher when it must all come out of the community pocket. This is not so logical a saving, however, and there is really no sound argument in theory at least as to why every community of religious should not belong 100% to the N.C.E.A. In the case of the library, its entire personnel should surely belong to the Library Section and receive the Catholic Library World. Some professional contact is needed from the standpoint of professional alertness alone. Membership in such an organization as ours should be a first consideration in a library budget.

The Library Section needs to have a permanent office with the Secretary General at Washington. It has been suggested that a new organization of the Catholic librarians be made, but for the present that would not seem possible. Our work, however, is not to be considered as subservient to but rather parallel with the work of the national body. Generous care has been provided for our annual program in the Bulletin of the Association. These reports and papers form valuable reading matter for administrators and teachers as well as we librarians.

The Library Section needs a larger membership of several hundred now and later of several thousands. We need an endowment fund for research and publications. Some day by our persistent efforts we may realize both aims, but the first will form a basis for the second. Let us help ourselves by showing greater interest in our professional organization. Then let us strive to interest others in our work to the end that it will not lack for lack of resources. It ought to be possible some day to realize a Catholic foundation similar to the Carnegie and Rockefeller grants for the great work of Catholic advance in this country. Many important projects languish for lack of the material resources alone. There are plenty of alert, able, and willing workers, but one can not do a great deal with bare hands. A hand to mouth existence is not conducive to steady realization of any important piece of work; surely Catholic education implied a many-sided activity demanding many-sided powers. Let us try to impress this need day by day to the end that soon there will rise up a Catholic Carnegie, or a Rockefeller, who will place his millions to a greater cause than even the pleasure or comfort of a precious progeny's gratitude. Shrouds have no pockets; relatives no prayers.

N E W S F R O M T H E F I E L D

Positions Wanted: Catholic college graduate, layman, desires a position as head of the cataloging and classification of Catholic college, seminary, or university library. References furnished. Box JWE, % The Catholic Library World.

The Blue List is published monthly by The Baker & Taylor Company, 55 Fifth Avenue, New York City, edited by Emma V. Baldwin, and is a selected list of the latest books of all publishers. Gratis.

Subscribers will note that the December and January numbers were combined. The March issue will be mailed about March 20th.

"A Suggestive Reading List" for students of St. Thomas Seminary has been prepared in mimeograph by Barry J. Wogan, the Librarian.

EASTERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

The Secretary of the Eastern Regional Conference, Rev. William M. Stinson, S.J. has announced that the Second Conference will take place in New York City at Fordham University, the Tuesday after Easter. Father Stinson is making up a program now and will welcome suggestions. Address him at the Boston College Library, Newton, Mass. The first eastern conference held last year was very worth while. Over fifty attended the meeting at Fordham held April 22, 1930. It gives many an opportunity to meet their neighbors in nearby states in a closer understanding of regional problems. The program of the Conference will be announced in later issues of The Catholic Library World. A morning and an afternoon session will be held.

The Library Quarterly, Volume 1, Number 1, January 1931 is a new addition to the library publication field. Its first issue contains several valuable contributions including an address delivered at Western Reserve University by C. C. Williamson of Columbia University on "The Place of Research in Library Service."

Orders for the 1930 ANNUAL of the CATHOLIC PERIODICAL INDEX may be placed now at the special pre-publication price of \$4.50 a copy. Please address orders to 331 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, Pennsylvania.

The Editor of the C.L.W. will welcome additional short articles on interesting subjects from subscribers and friends. We thank the contributors already set forth and hope that a wide reading will be given to their contributions.

The ever-interesting Wilson Bulletin contains a valuable article for the cataloger of the small library - "Cataloging for Small Libraries" by Frances R. Coe, in the February 1931 issue. This publication may be had free by librarians. Write to the H. W. Wilson Company, 958 University Avenue, New York City.

ST. MEINRAD'S ABBEY LIBRARY DONATES \$25.00 to the C.P.I.

A letter from Rev. Placidus Kempf, O.S.B., Librarian of the Abbey Library, St. Meinrad, Indiana, enclosing the check for \$25.00 is indicative of the value of our meetings. Father Kempf was at the Chicago Conference and promised assistance. In addition to this first donation (he was already a subscriber), personal aid through explanation of the C.P.I. to others will bring further support. It is just this sort of support which money can not command that will insure continuance of The Catholic Periodical Index.

A SUGGESTION

There are about 27,500 priests in the United States. Many of them are in charge of parishes and have a private library. Why not ask for an order for one copy of the C.P.I. ANNUAL for 1930 at \$4.50? Perhaps you would make a present of a copy yourself. Priests are in constant need of guides to good reading material and the Index provides a quick and accurate reference to material on numerous subjects. In YOUR DIOCESE or especially YOUR PARISH, make sure a copy of The Catholic Periodical Index is available. At only a small cost you can help others and help the Library Section.

ANOTHER SUGGESTION

Every public library, even the smallest, can make use of the C.P.I. ANNUAL for 1930. The local chapter of the Knights of Columbus or the Daughters of America would undoubtedly be glad to issue an order for one copy of the ANNUAL to be placed in the public library. It will only require your speaking to a member about it. Will you do this for us? It will insure our continuance and be a good work.

A Reference Question.- Who is the patron Saint of librarians? The answer will be given in the next issue of The C.L.W. Write in.

Regional News Editors: The Editor of the Catholic Library World is asking the following to serve as Regional Editors for our organ:

Eastern: New England States, Rev. William M. Stinson, S.J., Boston College, Newton, Mass. New York and Atlantic states, Rev. I. Leo Hargadon, S.J., Fordham University, New York City; North Central states, Sister Marie Cecilia, St. Catherine's College, St. Paul, Minn.; Chicago area and Illinois, Miss M. Lillian Ryan, Loyola University, Chicago, Ill.; Western states, Miss Lucille M. Reynolds, Creighton University, Omaha; Rev. Colman Farrell, O.S.B., St. Benedict's College, Atchison, Kansas; Sister M. Constantia, Loretto Heights College, Loretto Heights, Colorado; Southern states, Rev. Dr. Paul J. Folk, C.S.C., St. Edward's University, Austin, Texas; Additional representatives are needed and will be named later. If you have news items, etc. send them in. They are welcome.

Your attention is called to the LIST OF CPI SUBSCRIBERS given in the June 1930 issue of the C.L.W. on pages 55 to 57. Arranged by states, it offers a rapid survey of any area of interest to you. The bulk of subscribers are noted therein. An ORDER SLIP is enclosed with this number. Subscribers selling one copy may have an extra number of the C.L.W. mailed without charge. The inducement we really offer is that of helping a good thing along. Thank you!

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